

12/ A multiple working range optical system includes a lens system having various focal lengths and being arranged to focus an object in a first predetermined working range and an object in a second predetermined working range at a coincident image plane, narrow band filters being associated with each lens to allow isolation of an image of an object at one or other working ranges. In another aspect, an optical scanner which optionally includes the multiple working range optical system is pendant-mounted and worn by a user or is mounted on an arch over an area through which items carrying bar code symbols are passed.

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**SECRET**